California Weather-Hydro Conditions during March 2010

As of March 31, 2010, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 105 percent of average to date; runoff, 65 percent of average to date; and reservoir storage, 85 percent of average for the date. Sacramento River unimpaired runoff observed through March 31, 2010 was about 7.5 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 66 percent of average. For comparison, on March 31, 2009, the observed Sacramento River unimpaired runoff through that date was about 7.1 MAF, or about 63 percent of average.

On April 1, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 40.7 inches, which is about 98 percent of the seasonal average to date and about 81 percent of an average water year (50 inches). During March, the precipitation total for the 8-Stations was 6.4 inches, or about 93 percent of average. Last year on April 1, 2009, the seasonal total for the 8-Stations to date was 37.9 inches, or about 91 percent of the seasonal average to date.

Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 3/31/2010 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June)											
City	Jul 1 to Date 2009 - 2010 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2008 - 2009 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg "Water Year" Jul 1 to Jun 30 2009 - 2010						
Eureka	30.93	94	25.41	77	81						
Redding	24.52	85	18.51	64	73						
Sacramento	17.23	106	13.30	82	96						
San Francisco	17.75	96	13.90	75	88						
Fresno	9.96	101	6.39	65	89						
Bakersfield	5.69	100	4.13	73	88						
Los Angeles	11.10	91	7.98	65	84						
San Diego	8.74	90	8.94	92	81						

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 3/31/2010											
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available			
Trinity Lake	Trinity	1,303	1,960	66	2,448	53		1,145			
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	3,869	3,736	104	4,552	85	-541	683			
Lake Oroville	Feather	1,650	2,754	60	3,538	47	-1,443	1,888			
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	684	695	98	966	71	-112	282			
Folsom Lake	American	562	626	90	977	58	-139	415			
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	1,267	1,486	85	2,420	52	-771	1,153			
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,646	1,474	112	2,030	81	-44	384			
Lake McClure	Merced	565	578	98	1,025	55	-171	460			
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	421	360	117	520	81	-44	99			
Pine Flat Res	Kings	583	560	104	1,000	58	-182	417			
Isabella	Kern	169	195	87	568	30	-232	399			
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	1,715	1,874	92	2,039	84		324			

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month weather outlook for April 2010, issued March 31, 2010, forecasts an increased chance of above average precipitation for the northern and southern portions of California. No tendency is suggested in the central region of the State.